

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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O R 042119Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1878
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 5290

DEPT FOR EUR/RPM, EUR/SOV
FROM USDEL CSCE

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: CSCE
SUBJ: CSCE BELGRADE: AUGUST 4

1. AFTER PROLONGED DISCUSSION IN BOTH MORNING AND AFTER-
NOON PLENARIES, ENTIRE TEXT OF DECISION SHEET FOR THE
PREPARATORY MEETING WAS PROVISIONALLY REGISTERED WITH NO
SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES. (FULL TEXT IS BEING CARRIED BACK TO
WASHINGTON TOMORROW BY DEL MEMBER). THE SECTION OF THE
JOURNAL RECORDING THE CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENTS WILL BE ANNEXED
TO THE DECISION SHEET. EACH CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT WILL BE
PRECEDED BY A SUB-HEADING LINKING IT TO THE CORRESPONDING
POINT OF THE DECISION-SHEET. IN ADDITION, THE PHRASE
"THE CHAIRMAN NOTED THAT HIS STATEMENTS ENCOUNTERED NO
OBJECTIONS" WILL BE INSERTED AT THE END OF THE CHAIRMAN'S
STATEMENTS IN ORDER TO REINFORCE THE POINT THAT THEY WERE
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ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS.

2. AT THE END OF THE AFTERNOON PLENARY, THE SOVIET AND OTHER
WARSAW PACT DELS LAUNCHED A STIFF, CONCERTED EFFORT TO
PUSH THE MEETING TOWARDS THE ADOPTION OF SOME FORM OF
"POLITICAL CONCEPT" LANGUAGE, USING THE END OF THE MEETING
AS TIME PRESSURE. POLISH REP SUGGESTED ADDING THE FOLLOW-

ING PARAGRAPH TO THE INTRODUCTORY SECTION OF THE DECISION SHEET: "THE PARTICIPANTS EXPRESSED INTEREST IN HOLDING THE BELGRADE MEETING 1977 IN A BUSINESSLIKE AND CONSTRUCTIVE ATMOSPHERE." ATTEMPTS WERE MADE TO IMPOSE SUCH LANGUAGE IN THREE ALTERNATIVE WAYS: FIRST IN THE INTRODUCTION USING WORDING ORIGINALLY SUGGESTED BY ROMANIAN REP ON JULY 20. SECONDLY IN THE FORM OF A PUBLIC DECLARATION, TO BE DRAFTED BY THE MEETING AND TO BE MADE BY THE CHAIRMAN OF FRIDAY'S FINAL OPEN PLENARY SESSION. THIRDLY IN THE FORM OF FINAL COMMUNIQUE.

3. US REP, WITH HELP FROM BELGIUM, FRG AND DUTCH REPS REJECTED ALL THESE EFFORTS, MAINTAINING THAT OUR INSTRUCTIONS DID NOT PERMIT US TO ADOPT SUCH LANGUAGE. MEETING FINALLY DECIDED THAT YUGOSLAVIA, AS THE HOST COUNTRY, WOULD, AT TOMORROW'S OPEN CLOSING CEREMONIES MAKE A BRIEF STATEMENT ON ITS OWN BEHALF AND DRAFTED ACCORDING TO ITS OWN ASSESSMENTS OF THE PREPARATORY MEETING.

4. DURING THE PROLONGED DISCUSSION OF THE "POLITICAL CONCEPT" LANGUAGE, SOVIET REP (VORONTSOV) MADE TWO LENGTHY INTERVENTIONS IN WHICH HE SOUGHT TO EMBARRASS THOSE DELS WHO OPPOSED THIS LANGUAGE BY ASKING HOW THEY PLANNED TO APPROACH THE BELGRADE MEETING, 1977 IF NOT IN A "CONSTRUCTIVE, BUSINESS-LIKE MANNER". SOVIET REP QUOTED FROM TWO BILATERAL COMMUNIQUE SIGNED IN JUNE, CONFIDENTIAL

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1977 (WITH FRENCH AND FRG) IN WHICH POLITICAL CONCEPT LANGUAGE WAS EMPLOYED TO DESCRIBE THE APPROACH OF THE SIGNATORIES TO THE BELGRADE MEETING.

5. FINAL PLENARY WILL BEGIN TOMORROW AT APPROXIMATELY NOON (SOVIET DEL ASKED FOR ADDITIONAL TIME TO RECEIVE FINAL APPROVAL FROM MOSCOW). THE FIRST PART OF THE MEETING WILL BE CLOSED AND WILL OFFICIALLY ADOPT THE FINAL TEXT OF THE DECISION SHEET MAKING ANY LAST MINUTE CORRECTIONS. AFTER A BRIEF COFFEE BREAK THE PLENARY WILL RECONVENE IN A FORMAL CLOSING SESSION, OPEN TO THE PRESS, WHICH WILL BE CHAIRED BY YUGOSLAVIA AS HOST COUNTRY. AT THIS TIME THE YUGOSLAV REP WILL GIVE THE VIEWS OF THE HOST COUNTRY ON THE MEETING JUST COMPLETED.

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